Policies and implemented tools for digitization of Museums and Galleries in Gorenjska region (Slovenia)

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Florence, 9th May 2017
Presentation of Gorenjska region

Area: 2,137 km$^2$ (11% of Slovenia)
Population: 203,654 (10% of Slovenia)
Population density: 95 people/km$^2$ (Slovenia: 102/km$^2$)

Number of museums (and galleries) performing public service in the field of protection of movable cultural heritage: 5 (Slovenia: 51)
Source: Ministry of Culture, 2017
Overview

• **Digitization is a priority** of the Ministry of Culture, the latter strongly encourages museums and galleries to digitize their collections and objects


• **NO determined programme for digital record keeping** at the national level
  • *Rules on keeping the inventory ledger (book) of movable cultural heritage objects (2004 - 2008)*

• Museums: developing *their own programmes* in cooperation with external IT experts
SOLUTIONS...

A) Digitization procedures
B) Digital contents' fruition
C) Durability/resistance of data/devices

*Scientific vs Commercial…
*Scientific & Commercial!
Museum of Gorenjska

- Founded in 1953 (by City Municipality of Kranj); regional museum;
- A national public service for protection of the movable cultural heritage in the Gorenjska region;
- Nearly 68,000 items ranging from archaeological finds to modern-days items; various materials;
- Collections from the fields of archaeology, ethnology, history from the earliest period to the present, art and cultural history;
- Curators, conservation and restoration centre, photography department, library, gallery, education department, documentation.
Exhibition Venues and Exhibitions

Permanent and temporary exhibitions located in **Kranj** (Khislstein Castle, Town Hall, Prešeren House, Ossuary) and **Bohinj** (Tomaž Godec Museum, Oplen House and Alpine Dairy Museum).
Museum Documentation and Digitisation

Central Museum Documentation

• Inventory ledgers (separately for each collection, managed by curators);
• Record of new acquisitions - accessions, record of material borrowing and transfers (managed centrally by the documentation officer).

Transition to Digital Documentation

• Most of Slovenian museums and galleries use Galis system for keeping their museum documentations.
• Galis was developed by computer experts from Semantika company, in collaboration with curators and documentation officers from some of the Slovenian national museums, and upgraded on the basis of user experience.
• In Museum of Gorenjska gradual transition from manually kept to digital inventory ledger - began at the end of 1990s, pursued strategically since 2008, intensified since 2012 and still ongoing.
Galís Documentation System

- An integrated software for managing all areas of museum documentation;

- Interconnected modules for recording, accession, inventory ledger, archaeological sites, locations and transfers of materials, media library, documentation of exhibitions, conservation and restoration activities, educational activities, library, statistics, inventory, archive;

- Keeping records of different museum objects and other materials (standards of the museum profession);

- Information about the museums items can be published on the Web and mobile applications (Museums.si);

- Museum purchases the user license (monthly payment), software owner regularly provides automatic data backup, user support and program upgrade.
Digital Inventory Ledger Galis in the Museum of Gorenjska

- All available data on items and photos are entered;
- The regular system of collection categorisation and item numbering was maintained after digitisation;
- Ongoing entry of newly inventoried items, the possibility of subsequent additions (entered by the authorized curator of the collection);
- Records from the old inventory ledgers are migrated gradually, often in completed sets of the material currently being studied and exhibited (entered by curators, documentation officer or external assistants);
- Over 26,000 material units are digitised at the moment;
- Two-thirds have been digitised after 2012;
- Up to 4000 units digitised annually, quarter of them being newly acquired materials;
- Better transparency, easier search and processing of the material (functional search engine);
- Less than one fifth of working time is dedicated to digitisation, which is much less than needed.
Chest, Painted rural furniture collection, Ethnology
### Inventarna knjiga

**ID:** 510:KRNJ-E-0001059

#### Osnovni podatki

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#### Pridobitev, Nahajalšča, Lastništvo

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#### Odkritje, Uporaba

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#### Dokumentacija

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**Note:** The image contains a screenshot of a digital inventory system with various fields filled with data. The fields include items such as date, location, inventory, and attachments, indicating a structured approach to managing artifacts or items in a museum or archaeological context.
Search engine – Collection of industry products, Modern history
Media Library, Collection of old Photographs
Web Portal museums.si / museums.eu

- Presentation of museum houses, permanent and temporary exhibitions;
- Information about museum items and collections, promotion of heritage;
- Data about objects are published directly from the Galis inventory ledger - Photo and basic information (name, description, time of origin, material, techniques, dimensions, collection).

http://museums.eu/museum/details/15/gorenjska-museum
Chest, Painted rural furniture collection, Ethnology

http://museums.eu/collection/object/233685/skrinja
https://museums.eu/collection/object/233738?pUnitId=15&pDashed=skrinja
Web Portal Kamra.si

- Digitised cultural heritage of Slovenian regions;
- Publication of materials and contents on different themes by museums, libraries and archives;
- Free access for creators and users;
- Accessibility for the general public, educational contents, original materials preserved through digitisation.

- Cooperation with the Kranj City Library digitising the material, the Museum is preparing materials and contents;
- Selected photographs and items from the museum collections (e.g. postcards);
- Publication of the materials and content of previous museum exhibitions to keep them available to the public.
Collection of postcards, Modern history
https://www.kamra.si/mm-elementi/item/bled-2.html
Exhibition Festival of Slovenian popular song, 2012
CASE STUDY: Digitalization of Tržič Museum

Our contribution will be focused on “Work panel B: digital contents (devices, applications, technologies)”

Goals/purposes of the digitalization of cultural heritage:
- accessibility, public presentation
- data saving and data protection
- classification, processing and searching of data

GOAL: in Trzic museum 20% of the collections will be digitized each year

Digitalization brings…
- web and social medias presence
- promotion of museum and its collection
- visit boost
Digitalization of Tržič Museum

Experiences of Tržič Museum with digitalization:

- new habits of visitors: “real life” visit is preceded by virtual visit
- attractive virtual presentation is key to access travel agencies, tour operators
- very good feedback from visitors (4.000 clicks first month)

In Tržič Museum we are strongly convinced the future of the cultural history and heritage WILL BE digital.
Digitalization of Trzic Museum - shoemakers collection
Digitalization of Tržič Museum – virtual tour

Mill races – water channel running through Tržič
Tržič lies at the confluence of the Blatnica and Hezluk streams. Water was one of the main factors that enabled the intensive development of Tržič. In the north of Tržič, the Hrholnik stream was channeled into mill races which powered water wheels for various uses.
The Zelenica downhill
On 19 February 1928 the Tržič Ski Club organised the first downhill race on Zelenica for the xGanzmann – Gassner cup. (Ganzmann and Gassner were owners of the Tržič cotton spinning and weaving mill). The trophy went from winner to winner until the competition on 13 February 1958 when the skiers of the Tržič Ski Club secured it for evermore with their victory.
Digitalization of Tržič Museum

Case study: Ljubelj Concentration Camp

Trends are as follows:

- To preserve the original space as it was.

- Interpretation is given virtually (objects, people, historical events, content...).

- The area of the camp could not be understand without the data, which are introduced by virtual presentation (history of building the tunnel, the structure of the camp, barracks, atrocities of the Nazi-regime...).
The Ljubelj South concentration camp was set up by the German Reich for the purpose of constructing the Ljubelj tunnel on this extremely important road connection between Nazi Germany and the occupied territories to the south. The tunnel, 1542m long, was cut through in eight months. During the period from 3 June 1943, when the first 330 internees arrived, to 7 May 1945, when it ceased to operate, the concentration camp belonged to the notorious Nazi concentration camp Mauthausen. The internees were primarily brought from there, and included mostly French, Russian, Yugoslav, Italian, Czech, Jewish, Norwegian, Belgian and Spanish prisoners, and others.

To commemorate these wartime horrors, a monument to the Ljubelj internees was set up on 8 August 1954, designed by the architect Boris Kobe in cooperation with the master blacksmith Josã Bartolomej.

The site of the former Ljubelj concentration camp has been declared a national monument and comprises the memorial park with the remains of the concentration camp barracks, other buildings and the crematorium. In the basement of the nearby inn there is also a memorial room housing a permanent exhibition about the Ljubelj concentration camp.

START THE STORY
Digitalization of Tržič Museum

Technical details
- The group of experts, who take care of everything, has performed all the work: shooting, technical support, 360° fotography, web page solutions, digital content.

- The price was quite low: 1.000 – 1.500 EUR/per collection. Project is not very demanding (5 people, 1 month). Special attention should be paid on copy rights.

Dissemination of good practices
- All European museums are tightly connected (even worldwide) through ICOM (The International Council of Museums)

- Dissemination of good practices and networking is easy and on-going.
Thank you for your attention!

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